

## **EXHIBIT A**

CHAYRA INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE INC.

**cis**

P.O. BOX 2363, MILL VALLEY, CA 94942

January 16, 2020

To: Brian Berson  
Attorney at Law

Fr: Sonny Chayra  
CIS

Subject: Jose Arteaga-Vasquez

Re: Interview: Sonja Vasquez: 011-(REDACTED)

On 1/10/20, I conducted a telephone interview of Ms. Sonja Vasquez ("Sonja") our client adoptive mother who currently resides in Honduras. I identified myself as the Private Investigator retained by the defense attorney representing the subject: Jose Vasquez, ("Jose") in the underlying criminal matter.

Sonja stated that she and her husband Jose had legally adopted little Jose when he was approximately 3 years old. Sonja stated that little Jose was 3 years old when both his parents and siblings were murdered by a group of men. Sonja stated that she does not know much about the murders and never really knew Jose's birth family, their names or family last name. Sonja stated that all she knew was that it murders of Jose's birth family to avenge the death of a member or members of another family, possibly drugs were involved. Sonja stated that she was not familiar with the facts and did not ask questions around the neighborhood for fear of reprisal. Sonja stated however; that when Jose was still a very young child, he was in the park, when a bunch of men (suspected killers of Jose's birth family) came around looking to kill little Jose. Sonja stated she heard about the death threats and ran to the park, grabbed Jose and prevented these men from killing him (Jose). Sonja stated that thereafter, the death threats toward Jose continued and eventually, Jose at age 13-14 years of age, came to her and told her he was leaving Honduras; fearful he was going to be killed.

Sonja stated that Jose was always a very hard worked, handled many jobs at a very young age. Sonja stated, Jose at that time had saved enough money and as well as she (Sonja) gave him money and Jose fled Honduras at age 13-14. Sonja stated that her own birth son, Roman subsequently followed and fled Honduras for the US and hopefully a better life. Sonja stated that although she knew both sons where in the US, she had no information as to what happened to them from the time they left Honduras for the US. Sonja stated that she knew however; that both Jose and Roman were working and that both of her sons would periodically send her money.

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Sonja stated that as a child through his teenage years Jose always suffered from depression, and it became harder as he grew older and learned and understood about the murders of his family. Sonja stated that Jose lived in constant fear that the men who murdered his family would come and kill him as well. Sonja stated that there were always rumors in the town and threats that he (Jose) was going to eventually be killed. Sonja stated that she and her husband had legally adopted Jose shortly after his parents and siblings were murdered.

Sonja stated that since her sons left for the US, her husband "Jose" eventually left her and he (Jose) is currently involved with drugs. Sonja stated that she has been left with two smaller children and she herself is not of good health. Sonja stated that as a result of both her older sons being incarcerated in the US, (client, Jose and his brother Roman), she no longer has any viable means of monetary support. Sonja stated she is in a "bad way" and is worried about both of her sons. Sonja stated she believes she still has the adoption papers for Jose but at this time she is unable to locate them.